# MEDICAL CENTURY

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## ORIGINAL ARTICLES.

### UPPER ABDOMINAL SYMPTOMS AND THEIR INTERPRETATION.

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MORRIS, I think it was, who spoke of "The cobwebs of the upper abdomen." "Fogs of the upper abdomen" would, I think, more nearly express the condition. It frequently happens that the organ, sounding forth its distress, is hard to locate because of the dense mists that obscures the region.

Typical cases seem to need no special discussion. This paper will be limited to reporting some atypical cases and making some deductions from them.

The first case to be reported came to me in the first years of my practice. A man, thirty-five or forty years of age, suffered from severe attacks of colic. The pain would last from a few hours to two or three days. I first saw him during an attack. The pain seemed confined to the right inguinal region and there was a decided tumefaction in the McBurney area. My first thought was that a surgeon should be called. However, when I learned that the tumefaction came only with the pain, that it disappeared as soon as the pain ceased, that its disappearance was not attended by any unusual discharge from the bowels and that the patient seemed fairly well between attacks, I concluded to wait and study the case. I eliminated appendix, ureteral and other inflammations in the immediate area, but was still unable to locate the cause of the trouble. When visiting the patient during a subsequent attack he told me that he sometimes had a slight girdle pain about the waist. It was never severe enough to cause him to mention it before. I ordered a careful washing of the stools for a time, with the result that several gall stones were found. I was not then doing abdominal surgery, so gave the man Berberis and China and he got well. The gall stones were small and I think the gall bladder emptied itself completely.

The second case was a woman past middle life. She lived in a town in the western part of the State. I was called to operate for suppurative appendicitis. The patient was very sick and the abscess filled the whole right inguinal area. When it was opened pus mixed with a greenish fluid poured out and along with it came a number of large gall stones. The liver was not much prolapsed, but the gall bladder was the largest I ever saw.

It is rare that gall bladder disease is mistaken for appendicitis. Irritation of the appendix has such a marked reflex influence on the pyloris that many patients whose symptoms point to stomach trouble are really suffering from appendicitis. The following is a rather unique example: A man came to the hospital with a diagnosis of ulcer of the stomach. Some months before he had been very sick, vomited all he ate and with it some blood. He got better, apparently well. A few days before entering the clinic he began to have the nausea and pain in the stomach the same as before. He had such dread of another experience similar to the one he had gone through his physician sent him to the hospital for an operation for ulcer of the stomach. We found the stomach free from any evidence of disease. The gall bladder was normal, also the spleen. We then pulled the appendix up into the wound. The distal inch of the organ was contracted, hard and cord-like. Its lumen was obliterated. Most of the balance showed a catarrhal inflammation with a little serum in the apendix. Removal of the organ stopped the oncoming ulceration of the stomach. The symptoms in this case, the pain, the vomiting and the blood were so characteristic of stomach ulcer we may not have made as thorough examination of the abdomen as we should. We sought afterwards, to find if the man had ever had any symptoms of appendicitis. He remembered only his stomach trouble. I believe the spasm of the pylorus caused the nausea and vomiting. The pain was due to the spasm and the congestion. The blood was due to the congestion and retching. All had disappeared when the appendix got better and allowed the pylorus to relax. I saw Dr. Will Mayo operate on a somewhat similar case. The stomach symptoms were not typical, but were so suggestive the incision and plan of operation was for gastroenterostomy. The pyloric muscle was a trifle thickened, but was uniform and showed no evidence of disease. The stomach and gall bladder were normal. The condition of the appendix was similar to the one in my case. Dr. Mayo said the enlargement of the pyloric muscle was due to the extra exercise, the

long continued contractions caused by the irritated appendix.

I believe that ulceration of the stomach occurs much more frequently than most physicians and surgeons are aware. A chronic, recurring dyspepsia should arouse suspicion. A careful study of the history and symptoms, coupled with a careful examination and stomach analysis, will usually make the diagnosis clear. However, the symptoms may be misleading as in the following case. The patient came to the hospital to be treated for gall stone colic. The paroxysms of pain were severe, sudden in onset, but rather slow in letting up. The pain extended to the shoulder blade. Upon opening the abdomen the stomach was found to be firmly adhered to the gall bladder. The organs were carefully separated when it was found that there was a large hole in the lesser curvature of the stomach. The gall bladder seemed normal. A gastrorrhaphy was performed. I explained the remittent pains on this theory. When the ulcer first perforated the stomach wall the gall bladder, by some hook or crook, was in a position to plug the hole and prevent the usual results of a perforating ulcer. The opening in the stomach wall was so large it seemed to me the ulceration must have continued after the first perforation had taken place. I think that there was possibly a little leakage from the stomach occasionally, that caused a degree of peritonitis and the pain.

One more case: A man of about sixty-eight consulted me because of a progressive stomach trouble with more or less nausea and vomiting. He had lost forty pounds in weight within a few months. A hard, rounded tumor could be palpated just above the umbilicus. The history and appearance of the man were that of malignant disease. The location of the mass was too low for typical pyloric cancer. There was no bruit of aneurism and we could explain the tumor and the stomach symptoms on no other theory than that of malignant growth. I gave him an unfavorable prognosis, but advised an exploratory operation on the ground that the condition was not typical and that we could not know the pathology present without. We might be mistaken in our supposition, and the condition be amenable to surgical treatment. The operation was performed. The mass was a knuckle of an elongated, calcified aorta that had been pushed or grew up over the prominence of the backbone. The cause of the obstruction in the alimentary canal was an inflammatory band in the mesentery of the ilium near its cecal end, due, probably, to an old appendicitis. It made a Lane's kink. At last reports the man was gaining in weight and enjoying fairly good health.

These are not all the errors in diagnosis that I can boast. They are enough for our purpose. What shall we conclude? That we can know with certainty but little about conditions in this befogged area and hence there is no use trying? Just cut in and make your diagnosis after the abdomen is open? If I thought my paper would leave this impression I certainly would wish it had never been written. There are a few freak cases that wear false faces and the best diagnosticians will occasionally make mistakes in diagnosing them. Between this small class and the typical cases that are diagnosed without difficulty are a large number that require close study, not alone to make the diagnosis, but to determine, as well, the kind of treatment needed. Many a case, because of mistaken diagnosis, has been subjected to operation when medicine would have done him better. Not a few have been kept from the operating table when it alone could give relief. I am also satisfied that some have had the last spark of hope taken from them by a diagnosis of an incurable condition when the real disease was quite different.

When you have a patient with any serious trouble in the upper abdomen consider all the conditions that might produce the symptoms. Take time to study the case. Don't hesitate to admit that you are in doubt and need time. Remember the fog and that echoes may be deceiving. Study the history of the case, but don't jump to conclusions. A prejudiced mind is the cause of most mistakes in diagnosis. The chief complaint of the man suggests a certain pathological condition. As we get the history of the case and follow it up we see the things that confirm our first impression and overlook things that, given proper weight, would show that our first impressions were wrong. Mayo says, "When a surgeon makes a laparotomy he should go into the abdomen with an open mind." The successful detective always has an open mind. The physician is in the truest sense a detective.

Again, when a patient is seriously sick and the diagnosis remains obscure in spite of the various diagnostic methods that can be used, and his condition is not bettered by general or local treatment, an exploratory laparotomy should be made. There is a prevailing impression, that was tersely expressed by the husband of one of my patients, "I don't want you to cut my wife open unless you know exactly what the condition is that you are going after." The same man would condemn the physician who would treat his child for an obscure and persistent throat trouble without looking into the throat. It is just as important, in some cases, to look into the abdomen or feel the diseased structures before a correct diagnosis can be made.

A word regarding the physician and the consulting surgeon. The consultant likes to find things as the family doctor has found them. When the prevailing symptoms point to a certain condition, he sees the case as does the man who has been watching it. Both may be mistaken because the history has not been carefully studied.

Another embarrassing situation sometimes results from a positive but wrong diagnosis. This has happened to me. A patient has been brought to the hospital with a positive diagnosis and for a particular operation. As we examine the case with the class and the patient's physician, it develops that the condition is not what had been diagnosed, that if an operation is needed it is different from what the patient expected, and occasionally no operation is called for. It sometimes takes more tact than I possess to keep the physician feeling proud of himself and the patient feeling good toward his physician.

Let me repeat. Remember the fog. Study the history of the case. Give every symptom its proper weight. When the patient is not bettered by treatment and the diagnosis is obscure, make an exploratory laparotomy. Don't glory over another physician when he has made a wrong diagnosis that you have corrected. The time is apt to come when it will be "vice versa."

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## THE WAR ON CANCER—THE VARIOUS TREATMENTS—POTASSIUM, RADIUM AND HIGH FREQUENCY.

BY E. MATHER, M. D., LL. D., DETROIT, MICH.

THE grand successes which have resulted from the Potassium treatment with electro-therapeutics, high frequency, etc., have been so well authenticated by these agencies that cancer can no longer be regarded as uncurable.

I have seen many cases treated by these remedies abroad, on my visits in England, at the hospitals, and in America, during the last thirty years, constant and prolonged microscopic and histological research, supported by practical experience at the bedside and in the office with the patient, also at the American Cancer Research Society.

### THE CAUSE OF CANCER.

It is now recognized that cancer is due, not to the action of any germ or micro-organism, but to a perverted or abnormal growth of certain cells in the body, for you all know the human body is built up of cells, and that these cells are continually wearing away and being repaired; now the materials required for the repairing and reconstructing or building up of these cells are brought to them by the blood.

And amongst the substances needed for these treatments to built up the cells are certain mineral salts, particularly and assimilable "Salts" of Potassium, with electro-therapeutics, or high frequency, or Radium. Now, I have found sufficient quantity of these essential "Salts." They remain healthy structures. But should these substances only be available in meagre quantities, the growth of the cells is perverted, they become abnormal and retrograde to the terrible cancer cell.

Now the electro-therapeutics, with the Potassium, circulating the same, in the locality, thus causes a change in the growth and action in the cancer cells.

The Potassium and Radium acts in similar manner, also the high frequency.

In my opinion, this liberation of Potassium, and the fixing of them in cancer and other cells, are the only possible explanation of the action of Trypsin and Radium. Again it is evident, therefore, that Radium may cure a cancer by fixing locally part of the amount of Potassium remaining in a sufferer's body, which is already sadly deficient in Potassium Salts. The liability of further cancerous conditions and recurrences still remains.

Radium cures of itself are uncertain.

The success of Radium depends upon the Potassium in the patient's body. For a sufferer who is undergoing the Potassium treatment is in no way dependent upon the Radium, although its local application is often of great assistance in these cases.

### THE TREATMENT OF POTASSIUM SALTS.

The method employed is simple, which supplies the body-cells with the substance they so badly need and, of course, thus converts the cancer cells back to normal healthy structure again.

It is quite easy for every physician to look the case of cancer over and adopt measures according to the case. I have used this very largely on cases which have already been operated upon recurrence. I have had and am having the grandest success in this treatment.

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# SELECTIONS.

## SECTARIANISM IN MEDICINE.*

BY WM. TOD HELMUTH, M. D.

I AM a sectarian in religion; by creed a Protestant, and yet I hope a Christian.

I am a sectarian in politics; by creed a Republican, and yet I hope an American citizen.

I am a sectarian in medicine; by creed a Homœopath, and yet I hope a physician.

In religion my peculiar belief in points of doctrine and other theological minutiæ does not debar me from all the rights of Christianity.

The direction of my suffrage does not prevent me from availing myself of all the privileges accorded by the Constitution to a citizen of the United States.

The manner in which I prescribe my medicines for the sick, confided to my care, does not or cannot eject me beyond the pale of the medical profession, with all that thereunto belongs.

These avowals are made without any idea of

*Presidential Address delivered at the annual meeting of the Homœopathic Medical Society of the State of New York, Feb. 12th, 1889.

advancing personal beliefs; they are intended to be purely illustrative of conditions which surround every thinking man in the community, and because in medicine alone can be found the thaumaturgical illustration of a fanaticism which would disown a brother, *because he is a sectarian.*

Sectarianism, ladies and gentlemen, is the offspring of originality, and in many cases the guardian of progress. It has cast down the idols of Paganism; it has overthrown a beautiful but heathen mythology, and sent the sun of Christianity to brighten and redeem the world. It has made this country, in all its magnificence, what it represents to-day before the nations of the earth, and it has already begun a revolution in the medicine of the nineteenth century which is palpable to every one who can discern the signs of the times, and of which the end is not yet.

We must, however, discriminate between sectarianism and fanaticism; for, in the latter, tyranny always forms an important element, and tyranny brooks no opposition and renders argument a torment; it commands all men to bow down before its idols and would crucify every dissenting spirit.

But you are told to-day, that because the homœopathists are *"sectarian"* they can have no fellowship with the so-called regular practising physicians of this country.

Dr. Austin Flint, a man in authority, plainly says: "If the homœopathic practitioners abandon their organization and the name, provided they have received a regular medical education, there need be no restrictions in consultation, other than those belonging to other portions of the code." (*N. Y. Medical Journal*, April 7th, 1883.) Similar conditions of renunciation were demanded of the early Christians before they were cast in the arena to fight the beasts at Ephesus. Such revocation of belief Tertullus, in his oration before Festus, would have exacted from Paul, when he was accused of belonging to the hated *sect* of the Nazarenes, and is exactly what England demanded of our colonies, when they decided to abide by the newly formed Constitution of the United States.

It is not necessary here to refer to those early centuries when, in "Antioch the Beautiful," the name "Christian" was given to the followers of Christ, or to those troublous times later in the world's great history, when Luther defied the supremacy of the Pope by burning the papal bull before the gates of Wittemberg: nor yet again still later, when this country declared itself a free and independent nation—asserting, in the words of the great Jefferson, that "all government derives its powers from the consent of the governed."

These are all established historical facts in the professions of theology and law. But in the profession of medicine there remains yet to be recorded the manner and forces which combined to render the homœopaths *sectarian*—this being the great obstacle now urged against the followers of Hahnemann. To do this satisfactorily the fact must be acknowledged that at present there exists an old and a new school of medicine. The former is august, ancient and honorable, having enrolled within its archives the names of some of the noblest and most earnest men of the times in which they lived; single-eyed and humane, walking with rectitude in the paths they believed to be true; clinging with tenacity to their traditional notions; watching with suspicious eyes the advance of any new doctrine tending to conflict with the established precepts of their school, and resenting with animosity any breakage of its written or unwritten laws. On the other hand there is a NEW SCHOOL of medicine, of which we claim to be members, and of which this Society is one of its exponents—young and energetic, that, instead of resting its practice on the traditional medicine and experience, has a scientific law to guide its therapeutics; that has been bold enough to face a storm of persecution and abuse —which, indeed, was to have been expected from its ancient and vindictive mother; and now, as our colonists of old believed in a new Constitution and declared themselves independent, fought for the principles they professed, and have acquired a recognized position among the nations of the earth; so this new school, now passing through its ordeal of trial and persecution, has acquired a status as a system of medicine which cannot be overthrown; sectarian, if you will, but honestly and honorably sectarian in every particular. Do not understand me to imply, by these words, that the homœopathic school is perfect, or that those who believe and practice according to the formula *similia similibus curantur* are by any means superior, as a class, to those who deny its verity. There exists to-day, as much bigotry and intolerance in the one school as in the other (considering the difference in age and the comparative numbers of each). There is as much jealousy and rivalry; there are proportionately as many good and bad men in the one school as in the other, simply because we are all of the stock of Adam—*human*. The difference between the schools lies here: The new school professes to follow, *whenever it is practicable*, a method of cure based upon a certain law which we claim renders its practice scientific; the old school, follows the experience of great men, which necessarily produces a practice often successful but nevertheless variable and uncertain, for the deductions from experience differ in different minds.

It is on this account—I mean the belief in the formula of similars—that we are termed "sectarian" by the majority of physicians, who appear to forget the process by which this sectarianism, if it be such, was created, and which has now grown to such gigantic proportions that

it can never be overthrown; it stands forever on the rock of truth.

Let me review a few historical truths, and you will pardon me if in doing this I draw from my own experience, giving *facts* which no man dare gainsay, for, after all, the time has come for the production of the truth; truth that cannot be denied, or, if denied, can readily be proven.

Thirty-five years ago the homœopathic system of medicine was considered, both by the old school and by the majority of the people, as the most rampant system of quackery and humbug in existence. A perusal of the allopathic literature of that period will amply verify the assertion. If any enterprising medical gentleman would overrun the "back numbers" of the leading medical journals of this country and of Europe of the period of which I speak, and collate the articles—contributed and editorial—which stamped in the most offensive manner everything pertaining to homœopathy, a book could be compiled that would astound the rising generation of doctors of both schools; it would be composed of dire anathemas against the system; predictions of its immediate dissolution (forecasts of a similar character are occasionally made even now); libellous attacks upon Hahnemann and upon those who believed in his doctrine; arithmetical calculations to show that it would require a billion of worlds like ours to make a thirtieth potency—in bulk; outrageous mis-statements regarding the dosage question; flaming reports of medical societies wherein were chronicled the expulsions of those members who believed in homœopathy; of actual murder attributed to members of the new school, and a host of side slurs and sneers which would render such a book interesting and humorous to us, but I am sure would be absolutely humiliating to many of the most prominent and right-minded men of the old school. In the year 1850 I began to copy from the pages of one medical journal alone—and that one the most prominent in the world at that time—the most vituperative of these articles; I felt sure they would be of use to me if I lived. I was but a boy then, and long has the book been closed. Most of the authors who penned these rhetorical persiflages are no more (God rest their souls), but their words are still in existence; I bring them forward at this juncture to make a first link in the chain of facts to show *why we are and who made us sectarian.* I can only introduce a few expressions from some of these articles, as time and space forbid any extensive notice. For instance, in the *London Lancet,* July, 1851, is an article entitled *"Homœopathic Wrath,"* in which an abominable story is told of "a globulist" who sold his principles for money. In the same journal, September, 1850, the editorial reads, "We are told that the *homœopathic quackery* is advancing in Spain, that the inroads of *"the homœopathic tribe"* are great. In the January number, 1851, is an article headed *"Quackery Rampant,"* in which appears the following: "The last *monstrosity, homœopathy, the most absurd of all,* has acquired an importance, temporary as it must be for many reasons, one of the many, we regret to say, which has originated in certain *dishonest members of our own profession.* These men (homœopathists), unable from their *shallow capacities* and requirements to fight *fairly* and to compete manfully with their brethren, have shrunk, as it were, behind the hedge and *turned assassins to obtain a livelihood.* Yet, not content with practising *a quackery, the absurdity of which has no parallel in history, these renegades* lose no opportunity in placing their daggers in the reputation of legitimate medicine. . . . But the *delusion* will fail, as all such delusions must; *another form of quackery* will rise, and a globulist, if in a few years such can be found, may be exhibited, as was the metallic tracter, as a curiosity."

In the same journal for January, 1851, is a communication on the London Homœopathic Hospital by one Thomas Ballard. It begins, "Sir: Observing that you invite the contribution of facts respecting *the huge system of imposture called Homœopathy,"* and after a lot of nonsense, ends as follows: "In case of death occurring in this institution would it not be proper that the *Coroner should inquire* whether all due means have been employed to prolong life; and if found to be otherwise, would not someone *be guilty of manslaughter, or at the least of passive murder?"* What an outrageous innuendo is here expressed.

In the same journal, November, 1851, can be found a long and vituperative article, headed *Frauds of Homœopathy,* in which we are called *"Craven Knaves," "Medical renegades who prostitute the title of M. D.,"* "The disciples of Hahnemann, the father of homœopathic lies," who is called our *"mendacious master Hahnemann,"* and abounding in such epithets as these *"the lies of homœopathy," "huge system of imposture," "the odious system of quackery,"* etc., etc.

In the same journal, July, 1851, homœopathy, after being called *"Quackery,"* and its upholders dubbed *"the semi-insane followers of Hahnemann,"* is explained. The *"disgusting and loathesome features of globulism"* are pointed out, as well as its *"fraud and humbug."*

In the same number of the same journal, July, 1851, is an editorial headed "The Edinburgh College of Physicians." It may be well here to remark that it was about this time that Professor Henderson, holding then the Chair of Pathology in the University of Edinburgh, espoused homœopathy, and the medical press of the country was aroused to such a pitch of frenzy that no words could be too opprobrious; no language too vile; no insinuations too base; no imputations too

severe for those who believed in, or even had a tendency toward homœopathy. It was, indeed, laughable to see how anger obscured the otherwise good judgment of the editorial chair. It was considered impossible that a man should continue to teach pathology, as he had most succesfully for twenty-five years, after he had changed his ideas of therapeutics. The celebrated Professor Simpson then published his book, entitled "Homœopathy; Its Tenets and Tendencies, Theoretical, Theological and Therapeutical" (*decidedly T. T.*), which brought forth Henderson's masterly reply, which passed through a couple of editions in as many months. Then the Edinburgh College fulminated its wrath against homœopathy; and the *Lancet,* in an editorial, ran a-muck with depreciatory and defamatory adjectives, and slanged with all its might and main everything and everybody homœopathic. Such sentences as these occur: "It is, we believe, well understood to be the purpose of the northern college to proceed against all such persons as may show themselves slow *to understand what honor and truth require of them.* . . . They will be *plainly and forcibly ejected.* Nor will those be spared who, in weak compliance with aristocratic caprice, and in order *to steal a march upon their more sturdy and honest competitors,* so far forget what is due to their *education, their position* and *their duty to their patients* as to countenance and meet in consultation *that pseudo medical tribe* who, under the *gabardine of homœopathy,* wait upon the weakness and stoop to the humors of the pampered men and women of the upper ranks of society. . . . We have in this metropolis (London), to a still greater extent than in Edinburgh, our *impostors,* and we regret to say our false brothers, who do us more injury than the *quacks.* Were the homœopaths invariably left in the difficulties into which their presumption and their *dishonesty* frequently lead them, their credit with the public would long ago have been destroyed. But when physicians of *hitherto good name consent to meet such men, and thus vouch for the propriety of their proceedings, they are vastly aided in their scandalous and nefarious trade.* . . . *The monstrous alliance* now proceeding between regulars and quacks might surely deserve the exertion of collegiate authority. What is to be done with Dr. Henderson, the homœopathic professor of pathology in the University of Edinburgh, to the *condign disgrace of the University and every other professor, be it spoken?*" "What sort of pathology does this man teach? etc., etc., etc." It is needless to carry these quotations further, or to allude to many similar occurrences in this country. I could tell of so-called "homœopathic homicides;" of the attempted wholesale expulsion of at least sixty members from one society at one time, the offending cause being nothing but a difference in therapeutic belief. I could tell even of students refusing to hear an old, eloquent and learned divine deliver a valedictory address at a public commencement, because he was known to be favorable to "the schism."

I will recollect that my preceptor, Dr. Wm. S. Helmuth, holding the Chair of Theory and Practice of Medicine in the Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania, a man of high honor and a modest, though constant, student, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania in 1822-1823, had been convinced by practical experiments upon himself of the truth of the homœopathic law, and had adopted it in his practice. Many of his friends were professors in the Medical Colleges of Philadelphia; and I remember the feelings of pain with which he would relate, day after day, the outrageous discourtesies to which he was subjected. His early associates, men he had known for years, avoided him, and he was tabooed both social and professional intercourse. I well remember that in those days there were monthly professional social gatherings, called "Wistar parties," originated by Caspar Wistar, the celebrated anatomist (and I believe they are continued to this day), which were held in high repute by the profession. The cards of invitation (I can see them now) were peculiar in their engraving. These, which I used to see frequently upon his table, stopped as if by magic, when it became known that he had become a homœopathist. In other words, he was cast out as a renegade and a miscreant.

Professional and social ostracism by the old school was the lot of every homœopathist, and from the more rabid the most odious epithets and insinuations were unsparingly applied. This animosity was carried to such an extent—in Philadelphia, at least—that the oldest and best ties of friendship were severed; and as lately in England a respectable and honest old school practitioner was turned upon by nine "regulars," and placed under the ban of excommunication, because he had dared to prescribe, according to the principles of his own school, in an institution to which were attached homœopathic practitioners, so in this country whole families were parted because a relation saw fit to call upon or was interested in a homœopathic practitioner. No homœopathist, avowed or even suspected, was allowed a place in the medical societies to which (bear in mind) *he belonged.* No homœopathist was permitted to darken the doors of a hospital; no homœopathic communication on any subject was allowed to appear in a medical journal. Nay, students, wishing to study according to the old school tenets, could not matriculate if the preceptor was *suspected* of being even tinged with the heresy. The introductory lectures in the medical colleges in Philadelphia, where I lived at that time, sneered at us; the students jeered at us; not only thus, but were actually ashamed of being seen in company with

us by any old-school doctor. They were the physicians, we the charlatans; they the regulars, we the irregulars; they the doctors, we the quacks; they the wise men, and we the fools; they the honest men, and we the knaves. I am putting this strongly, but I am telling what I know, and am telling it for a purpose. Those gentlemen who are ten years my seniors in the profession, could tell you more. A wound may heal, forgiveness may be perfect, as it is, so far as I am concerned, but the cicatrix is there; it stays till death, it cannot be forgotten, and will contract in bad weather.

Under these circumstances, what were the homœopathists to do? Were they, believing honestly in what they professed, to bow down before the majority and actually become the knaves, or the frauds their enemies represented them? Were they, believing one thing, to be dishonest enough to practice another, or were they forced, actually driven, pushed to the extremity by the cry of "no quarter," extermination and disgrace, to join themselves together—to do as did the early Christians of the catacombs, become a sect. *And so they did*, and so, through no fault of their own, do they remain to this day.

Driven then by this relentless persecution, was it wonderful that a disposition to retaliation and a complete revulsion of feeling was developed among the earlier homœopathists? was it a wonder that these old-school men—and they were all old-school men—graduated from the best colleges in America and in Europe, who had been driven to the wall because they had the courage of their convictions, when they found all colleges, hospitals, societies, journals, all the avenues of medical knowledge and medical experience, save, perhaps, individual reading, closed against them; when they discovered that men of less education and poorer qualifications sneered at them; when they, grown gray in the profession, and who had held responsible positions in the community, were snubbed by striplings, the ink on whose diplomas was scarcely dry, and the discourtesy approved by the mass of the majority, that these men fought, and fought hard—for they were no cowards—for the principles they professed? Was it wonderful, I say, that they gave too wide a range to the formula, believed too implicitly in the curability of all diseases, and were tempted to allow symptomatology to absorb all the other collateral branches of medicine—to abjure all that was good as well as bad in the old school, and, knowing from their own experience the uncertainty and changeability of its therapeutics, to cast it out as a blot upon the escutcheon of medicine and have done with it forever? At the times of which I speak I have heard an educated homœopathic physician—a man of high honor and sensitive in the extreme—who had been stung to the quick by the social and professional scorn of his brethren, state that he considered it an actual disgrace to have in his library any allopathic literature whatever. And so, on both sides the branch between the schools widened, and so the homœopathists in the United States became *sectarian*.

How this was accomplished in this State is well told by Dr. D. B. St. John Roosa in the anniversary discourse delivered before the New York Academy of Medicine last November. Speaking of the high position occupied by medicine before the tirade against homœopathy began, he says: "But not content with its high position as recognized by the political power of the Commonwealth, the medical profession undertook to repress opinion on practice as to the treatment of diseases. The heresy was not as to the ascertained facts in anatomy and physiology, it was not a question as to how the human body was constituted, as to what was the structure of the heart or liver, but as to what drugs were to be given in cases of ascertained diseases, and as to what was the principle upon which they acted—heresy, in short, on subjects, however it may have been fifty years ago, *in which there is no orthodoxy now*. These new heretics were not like the Thomsonians, uneducated men, but trained at the same schools as other members of the profession in good and regular standing in the county societies and under protection of the law. In 1842, in the pasturages of Orange County, the fight waxed so warm that the county society forbade a homœopathic physician from practising within its jurisdiction. *This fatal step caused the persecuted sect* to appeal to the Legislature, which not only deprived the county societies from preventing those to whom they objected from practising, but also allowed anybody to practice who chose to call himself a physician."

And so in this Commonwealth we became the new-school sect, in opposition to the old-school sect, and so we remain to this day. But as time passed, as the predictions (some of which I have already noted) of our downfall and decay were unrealized; as knowledge infused dignity into the new school; when epidemics of severe character tested the truth of the doctrine of Hahnemann; when the people began to observe the results of the practice; when colleges were organized and hospitals erected; periodicals issued and books published; when various legislative bodies granted charters to educational and charitable enterprises, the advanced men of the old school began to look more dispassionately into the workings of the "sectarians," and the new school acknowledged the greatness and the majesty of medicine, as a whole, and that a mere knowledge of therapeutics did not constitute the entire qualifications of the practitioner.

But it was a difficult matter immediately after

the heat of controversy for either side to make any advancement toward unity. It was surely the position of those who had been so vilely treated to await patiently some sort of acknowledgment of the grievous wrongs that had been done; and now it has come, only in its beginning, to be sure, slowly and imperceptibly, but certainly, nevertheless.

The arrogant assumption, the bitter invective, the bigoted intolerance, the persistent ridicule which soiled the pages of magazines that chronicled, under the same covers, the work of great men in every department of medicine, have died away; a few embers of the persecuting fire occasionally flash into an evanescent flame, but no harm is done. The old school no longer sets itself up as a mystical medical cultus, to deviate from the laws of which is death or banishment, for it has discovered that at present, at least, no orthodoxy exists in medicine; at this moment it is suffering from mental indigestion. The good old dose of medical ethics, once supposed so useful in purifying and preserving from contamination the body politic, has proven a source of continued irritation to its advanced and educated medical stomach, and symptoms both novel and strange are in a continued state of development, which indicate to the careful prognosticator, who has silently watched the evolutions which have been taking place in the medical body, that some of the old acrid and nauseating components of the ethical pill must be omitted, or that old physic will die, leaving behind two sons—*Old Code*, who was acquainted with Hippocrates, and who moves encumbered still with a coat of antiquated mail; and *New Code*, who is acquainted with Hahnemann, and who sincerely laments the injudicious persecutions showered by his elder brother upon the homœopaths.

The aspect of the times bears witness to these facts. The former so-called quackery has been raised in the estimation of a *certain portion* of the old school to a respectable position, and is acknowledged as *one* of the means by which disease may be cured. Hahnemann himself, even in the eyes of those who materially differ from his views, is ranked as one of the reformers in medicine.

Last June, Sir Wm. Stokes, in delivering the Cavendish lecture, "On the Altered Relations of Surgery to Medicine," used the following significant language in reference to the varied methods of curing disease: "I allude more particularly to the foundation and advocacy of varied systems which prevailed at different eras, as for example, the dogmatists, eclectics, the methodists, astrologists and alchemists." Mark, if you please, in this company homœopathy is not named. At the period to which I have alluded in the early part of this address the followers of Hahnemann were classed with the astrologists and soothsayers of old. "And," continues Sir William, "in later times to *the schools* of Cullen, Brown, Broussais and Hahnemann." Surely this places the founder of homœopathy in a position and in a company to be respected. He is "quack" no more; he is the founder of a school of medicine.

Dr. St. John Roosa, in his address last November, says: "Shall we say that a medical man is unfit for professional association because he brings himself to believe that scarlatina can be checked by infinitesmal doses of belladonna, or that quinine or antipyrine will cut off typhoid fever, or that electricity will cure cataract, or sulphide of calcium will abort inflammation, any one of which opinions is resolutely held by well educated and experienced men and as firmly denied by others. *It is impossible to deal seriously with those who would drive out men from a learned profession, not because their attainments are insufficient, or their moral character defective, but because they are believed to hold erroneous notions in the Materia Medica and in Therapeutics.*" Could more liberal, upright or manly statements than these, made as they are by one of the most illustrious men in this State, be brought to convince us of the altered position of at least a portion of the old school?

Dr. Kenneth Millican, a distinguished old-school surgeon, whose stubborn refusal to be boycotted by his colleagues, gave rise to the now celebrated *odium medicum* controversy, thus writes: "When first the doctrine, or rather the therapeutic rule, 'let likes be cured by likes,' was enunciated by Hahnemann, it was received by the medical profession at large with derision and scouted as an axiomatic absurdity. . . . . But now all that is changed. We, of the *regular* profession, admit that there are individual cases where a drug which, in the healthy body, in large doses will produce certain symptoms, will in small doses cure similar symptoms arising from the disease. . . . . The difference becomes no longer one of the first principles, no longer one of kind, but one of degree, consequently there is no predetermined impossibility of an honest agreement in consultation as to the drug indicated in a given case."

Regarding this very same controversy, the London *Times* (January 20th, 1888), whose columns had been always closed to the homœopaths, after publishing the extensive correspondence of both parties, in a final editorial, which I wish I could read to you entire, says: "We pointed out that it is a mistake to fling charges of knavery and folly, either alternatively or cumulatively, at men taught by the same teachers, trained at the same schools, and declared qualified practitioners of medicine by the same authorities as themselves. To call a man a fool, who holds exactly the same diploma as the men who abuse him, merely because he differs upon some medical subtlety which laymen are told they cannot form any opinion about, has the ef-

fect of filling the lay mind with distrust of the very certificates upon the strength of which the doctors challenge our confidence." It would be hardly fair to occupy your attention with more quotations to prove how time has changed the sentiments of many *individual gentlemen* of the old school and completely altered public opinion.

To complete these proofs, however, I must for a moment call attention to one most important fact, and that is, the recommendation of drugs homœopathic to disease in homœopathic doses, to be found in the advanced old-school text-books.

Lauder Brunton, Bartholow, Phillips, Jacobi and others make no hesitation in recommending such medicines in minute doses for certain diseases. To my mind it is of *the smallest possible import,* whether these gentlemen of the allopathic sect make acknowledgment of the sources from which they derive the knowledge of the drugs they so confidently recommend. *They* know where they got it. *We* know where they got it. It was dug from the homœopathic materia medica, "on the sly" (if I may be pardoned the expression), and the homœopathy they teach is perceptible at the first reading, explain it as they may. Let such authors appropriate for the present all they desire; we can afford it. Let them prescribe merc. cor. and colocynth for dysentery; ipecac for vomiting; pulsatilla for orchitis; nux vomica for dyspepsia arnica for bruises; sulphide of calcium for abscess; aconite for pneumonia and bi-chloride of mercury for diphtheria.

Still more: let them have these medicines prepared in attenuated doses called *"parvules,"* or triturated and moulded into tablets called *"triturates,"* or done up in what are known as *"dosimettric granules,"* packed in diminutive vials, arranged side by side in Morocco cases, each bottle resembling each other in size, color, form and contents, to be carried in the old-school pocket, dispensed at the bedside by old-school doctors, for the welfare of the old-school patient. It is an improvement over the saddle bag and big bottle treatment of a past generation. It is really not only homœopathic therapeutics, but homœopathic posology as well. It extends the belief in homœopathy and the patients thank God for the change.

While these remarkable transformations have been taking place in the old school, it would be unfair to its members and to ourselves to omit mention of the singular mutations which have occurred among the homœopaths. There exists at present at least two distinct sects in the school. There are those who, while they believe implicitly in the formula *similia similibus curantur,* as covering the widest field in therapeutics, are of opinion that it cannot always be applied, first, because the materia medica is imperfect; and, second, because our knowledge of it is often insufficient; who believe that there are methods of curing disease other than the homœopathic; who consider it necessary for the physician to understand as perfectly as the short span of his life will permit the varied collateral branches of medical science; who believe the dose to be a secondary consideration and not an essential; who, while they revere Hahnemann as a scientist and a scholar and as the founder of a distinct school of medicine, do not coincide with many of his ideas; who regard the welfare of the sick and the alleviation of suffering above mere adherence to a principle, and hesitate not if they are unable to find the similimum to prescribe what best they can obtain from the experience of any other school.

There is another sect, the Hahnemann Homœopaths, who believe in the universality of the homœopathic law, and in its never-failing application; who are of opinion that it is the only law to be followed in the treatment of disease, and that all other methods must be abjured; that palliation, other than on the principle of similars, is wrong and prejudicial to the patient; who regard the question of doses as an integral part of homœopathy; who believe in the development of the medicinal or curative virtues of a drug, by trituration or succussion up to the highest possible potencies; who look with disfavor upon the alternation of remedies; and some of whom, I think not all, regard the single dose of a remedy prescribed for the totality of the symptoms sufficient to cure the ailment for which it is prescribed.

It will be seen from the above that I have endeavored, as dispassionately as I am able, to describe the general beliefs of the parties as a whole, and that that of the Hahnemann Homœopaths is vested in the master, Hahnemann, and all of his teachings, while that of the homœopath is vested in the formula which Hahnemann discovered. It is to the teaching and practice of the latter class that the changed attitude of the old school toward the new is chiefly to be ascribed.

Both of these sects are, no doubt, honest in their convictions, and we are bound, as fellow members of this society, to respect each other's convictions; but, after all, when we come to look minutely into the matter, the difference between us (I belong to the *former* sect) is more in degree than in kind, save in regard to the question of dosage. The fundamental principle at the bottom is the law of similars, the one party, however, giving it a wider scope than the former. One declares that it embraces the entire field of therapeutics, while the other contends that at the present time it can only be applied to a portion thereof. So far as the principle of dosage is concerned, I am of opinion that there is no law regarding it. The question posology must

forever remain a matter of experience, judgment and skill.

There are no two temperaments exactly alike; there are no two constitutions exactly alike. One man can take a refreshing exercise which would disable another. Some articles of food are prejudicial to one person and beneficial to another, and therefore I rest content with the words of Hahnemann, and let us take them to heart. He says, on page 79 of his Organon: "The first and *sole* duty of the physician is to restore health to the sick. This is the true art of healing;" and on page 203, "The question that now suggests itself is to discover what may be the degree of minuteness of the dose best calculated to render the salutary effects intended to be produced certain and gentle, that is, to say how far the dose of a homœopathic remedy in any given case of disease ought to be reduced in order to derive from it the best possible cure." His next words are important. "It may be readily conceived that no *theoretical conjecture* will furnish an answer to this problem, and that it *is not by such means we can establish, in respect to each individual medicine, the quantity of the dose that suffices to produce the homœopathic effect and accomplish a prompt and gentle cure. No reasoning, however ingenious, will avail in this instance.* It is by *pure experiments, only, and precise observations that this object can be attained.*" . . .

Let us, therefore, have recorded for present instruction and future reference the name of the drug that cures. That is sufficient for me, and if the posological mention is distasteful to either party, let the potency be left out altogether. It is homœopathy and not posology that this society advocates, and as in the latter every man must act from his own experiments, pray allow him to do so. Let us remember, as old Epictetus says: Every matter has two handles by which it can be grasped. The homœopathist seizes one handle of the posological balloon with a grasp of iron and strives to set it free, damning the Hahnemannian because he uses the high potencies, calling him a spiritualist and an exclusionist, forgetting that the Hahnemannian has hold of the other handle, endeavoring to send the inflated bubble his own way, while he damns the rationalist, and calls him a radical and a mongrel. And while thus they tug, they shout in chorus the lines of the *good old hymn,* with but a word of alteration,

"That dose, though all hell shall endeavor to shake,
I will never, no never, no never forsake."

Why, gentlemen, omit the dosage question entirely; let it not once be named among you. To my mind it is so small when compared to the great problems in medicine, the advances in surgery, the wide fields of bacteriology, the newly-discovered regions in gynecology and obstetrics, the improvements in our materia medica, the medico-political questions of the times and the advances in hygiene and therapeutics, that it ought not, in the state meetings, to be discussed at all. Every man, after a few years' practice, must decide the question as Hahnemann says—by his own experience; and so let him, and while he does so, let him allow to every other man a similar prerogative.

These are the metamorphoses which the past thirty years have brought about in the two schools of medicine, and from a careful consideration of the history of the times, I am of the opinion that we must yet remain homœopaths. Until the old school of medicine allows us to exercise our own judgment in therapeutics, gives us free access to its medical societies without demanding retractions, grants us a proper position in the army and navy of our country, it still forces upon us that sectarianism which it affects to despise, and of which it is such a sad example. That some of its members, a great minority, would allow us these our proper rights I have no doubt, but that by far the greater portion would violently oppose such recognition, can easily be proven by any medical gentleman of this society, any professor in any homœopathic college, any one of you who is upon the staff of a homœopathic hospital or connected with a homœopathic journal, applying for membership to an allopathic organization of any kind. The plan was tried in New York City, and we all know the conditions of renunciation imposed.

If we relinquish homœopathy, if we shut up our hospitals, close our colleges, wipe out our journals, disband our societies, burn our books and destroy our materia medica, an affiliation may then be tolerated. I ask you, gentlemen of this society, can this be done?

It is from a knowledge of these facts that the homœopathists of this State, with such preponderance of conflicting opinion against them, and with the remains of the great antagonism still hanging heavy to their skirts of the allopathic sectarians, while there still exists in certain sections of the country sufficient bigotry, intolerance and cowardice to allow an entire medical faculty of the old school to countenance and uphold a dastardly attack of nearly two hundren students upon one single homœopath, and his forcible ejection into the street, for no other reason than his belief in homœopathy; when the feeling runs still so strong against our school that a member of a State society rises in his place and, without remonstrance or rebuke, declares that the homœopathists are "murderers and worse than murderers," and "that every homœopath should be hung until he was dead three times." When these things still exist we cannot trust our graduates to the mercies of a single board of medical examiners, even if there be a separate examiner in therapeutics and materia

medica for each school. To omit examinations on these two important factors of medical proficiency (by far the most intimately connected with the public good) would, it appears to me, nullify the object for which the board is composed. The simplest and best method, as there are two distinct schools recognized by the Legislature, is to petition for a board entirely composed of homœopathic physicians; as we have our own hospitals, colleges and societies, let us have, at least for the present, our own examining board; then all objections regarding fairness, political interests, etc., will be removed, and much unnecessary controversy avoided.

An independent examination is always desirable; the college that fears it is the college that is conscious of its inherent weakness. As Dr. Roosa well says: If such requirements are necessary for the treatment of the paupers in hospitals, for the sailors and soldiers of the United States, why should they be withheld from the law-abiding citizen? The New York Homœopathic College for years has adopted this independent method of ascertaining the qualifications of her graduates by the appointment of a Board of Censors, composed of upright and honorable men in the profession, who are in no way connected with the institution, and are given the power to reject any candidate over the heads of the faculty, if not satisfied with his medical acquirements. These examinations by a State board should be strict, but fair, not entered upon to display the knowledge of the questioner, but to draw out the learning of the student, always remembering that the very difference of position between the two (the one assured, the other uncertain) is sufficient to rattle the brains of very well qualified young men.

In the remarks, to which you have so kindly listened, I have endeavored to point out the position of homœopathy as it stands to-day, to show that the homœopaths became sectarian through the persecution of the old school, which by this very persecution established its own sectarianism; that the violence of the opposition is, in a measure, subsiding on the one side, while momentous changes have take place on the other, but that still renunciation of our position is as yet publicly demanded before unity can be effected, and that, therefore, until there can be a more liberal spirit manifested by our allopathic friends (enemies no more), we must continue to be a Homœopathic Society. If this is sectarianism you will readily see that it is neither dishonorable nor disgraceful. True sectarianism is compatible with the highest degree of learning; while it is firm for the preservation of its rights, it has the greatest toleration for the opinions of others. In fact, I might say that, throughout all the world, in theology and in medicine, sectarianism is "the authorized expression of doctrine, the definite intellectual expression of belief." I hold that if sectarianism had been a bar to its progress, medicine to-day would be an incongruous mass of poorly ascertained facts; for, from the time that the sons of Hippocrates founded the dogmatists, to the period when the allopathic sect forced the homœopaths to become sectarian, the history of medicine is the history of sects, all having more or less influence upon the progress of medical science; nay, more, the majority of the illustrious leaders in medicine (not surgery) whose names have descended to our own times as acknowledged fathers in medicine were sectarians.

Draco founded the *Dogmatists,* Seraphion, of Alexandria, originated the *Empirics,* while at Laodicea, Thermison divided the doctrines of the two and developed the *Methodics.* To Aretæus, of Cappadocia, the *Pneumatists* owed their origin, while through the exertions of Archigenes the *Eclectics* rose to prominence. Galen was a terrible sectarian, and Paracelsus, who burnt his books, originated the first sect of *"Chemists."* The *Humoralists* were succeeded by the *Vitalists* and the *Solidists.* Stahl, with his anima, founded the *Spiritualists;* Hoffman was a sectarian; Van Helmont was a sectarian; Boerhaave was a sectarian; Cullen, Brown and Sydenham, all founded or modified a system of their own, and consequently were sectarian. We honor their immortal names today. They will exist while medicine has a history.

But since Galen's time, the man who has exerted the most profound influence in the profession, whose doctrine and whose practice have left an indelible impress on the medicine of this century, whose position as a reformer, now gradually being recognized by the medical world, will yet shine refulgent among the brightest stars in the history of medicine is Samuel Hahnemann, the discoverer and the enunciator of a law *"Similia similibus curantur."*

The area that medicine covers to-day is so immense that its contemplation alone is a matter of time and difficulty. Its tentacles extend in every direction, and draw into it, either immediately or remotely, so many abstract sciences, that the thoughtful scholar must stand amazed at the boundless realms before him. Both as a science and an art its antiquity unfolds the wisdom and learning of centuries, and its archives are ablaze with the names of the illustrious men of past and present generations. But its dignity and its beauty rest not either in the magnitude of its proportions, its antiquity or the immensity of its knowledge; above all these, and shining through the vista of age, shedding a benignant light over all systems, all controversies and all schools that have existed, purifying the errors, which have been many, and illuminating the good, which has been great, is that grand catholicity of purpose which, from the time of Hippocrates to the present, has focused all its efforts upon

[illegible] one almost divine purpose—[illegible] suffering of that being whom [illegible] image.

[illegible] friends, as strong minds, minds [illegible] themselves, exist in the medi[illegible] profession, there will be a difference of opinion regarding uncertain and variable points of doctrine. It has been the history of the past, it is the history of the present, and it will be the history of the future.

Unity between the schools, as they exist today, can never be accomplished by legislation; it can never be brought about by controversy, and still less by the abnegation of a name; but [illegible] developed by that high degree of knowledge, that [illegible] the mental faculties, which [illegible] is able to eliminate self [illegible] each school to *freely and frankly acknowledge the good existing in the other.* Then, both possessing that unity of purpose, which has always formed an integral part of the medical profession, each will grant to the other the unrestrained right to accomplish the great end as conscience and experience may dictate; and a harmony will result, which will not only redound to the honor of the profession, but for the good of suffering humanity.

## "THE MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN."

BY J. B. S. KING, M. D.

"BY lectures, circulars, pamphlets, school inspection and newspaper advertisements the political doctors are spreading fear—peace destroying, health shattering fear—broadcast over the land. It enters every village and hamlet, it invades every home, it poisons every mind. The sanitarians have an unwholesome dread of microbes, but as the microbes of fear have not been discovered they ignore the real demonstrable effects of fear."

The foregoing statement was made last night by Dr. J. B. S. King in discussing "The Medical Examination of School Children" before the "Open Forum" in the Masonic Temple.

Dr. King is editor of the Medical Advance. He is a member of the Regular Homœopathic Society of Chicago, which recently declared it is opposed to the medical examination of school children. Dr. King said that medical inspection in the public schools is an invasion of the rights and duties of parents; that it is a violation of personal liberty; that it has proved ineffective; that it inevitably tends towards compulsion; that it easily leads to abuses; and that it has a bad effect upon the child and home influences.

Dr. King quoted Dr. L. H. Gulick, of the Russell Sage Foundation, as having declared that—

"A rather careful examination of the results of medical inspection of all cities reporting in the United States makes it clear that the hopes of those who have been defending medical inspection have not yet been realized to any great extent. Children are not being promoted with a greater frequency and steadiness which the earlier advocates of medical inspection believed would occur."

"Statistics do not at all make it clear," said Dr. King, "that inspection has in the least degree prevented contagious diseases, although they have been quoted for that purpose. If the facts are looked into there will appear no reason why medical inspection should have the slightest effect in diminishing the spread of contagious diseases. Inspectors do not and cannot inspect every child every day. They have no opportunity of being the first to discover a case. It is only when the child is so obviously sick that it attracts the attention of the teacher that the inspector is called in; the children, therefore, are no better protected from contagious diseases than if there were no inspectors. Parents are a hundred times more apt to notice the illnesses of their children than any inspector or teacher. They have something which no teacher nor inspector can possibly have, namely, a particular and peculiar affection for their own child and a tendency to guard it accordingly."

In showing that the medical examination of school children has a bad effect upon the child and upon the home influences, Dr. King said:

"Educators agree that children should be surrounded by cheerful and agreeable influences; that suspicion and fear should be kept as far as possible from them. Confidence and trust should be inspired, the affections should be developed and guarded and the environment be charged with interesting and humane influences. Good fairies, amiable and industrious Brownies, roguish Kewpies, are the forms of fantasy that delight, educate and develop the minds of little children. They should be taught that the invisible influences that surround them are benign and gracious. Instead of that the sanitarians are instilling into the minds of the people, almost with the mother's milk, that they are surrounded with billions of invisible malignant germs, bearing in their bosom the seeds of disease and death. They lurk in the air they breathe, in the food they eat, in the water they drink. Fear, dread and suspicion are introduced into the tender minds of children. They are taught never to trust nature. The delicate bloom of the plum and peach must be scratched off, the delicious natural water of springs and wells, the water of the 'old oaken bucket' must be boiled before it is safe. This is strictly uneducational. The Romans made a desolation and called it a peace. The sanitarians make a panic and call it a precaution."

"A penalty will come from this pernicious teaching as surely as the rising of the next tide. A crop of neurotic, weak nerved, hypochondriac,

insane people will come of it in this generation, and especially in the next generation. Medical inspection of school children is based, no doubt, partly in selfish desires and partly in a mistaken solicitude, but, however based, it is contrary to public policy, subversive of American principles, derogatory to the best interests of the children and dangerous to the liberties of the people."

## SOCIETIES.

### SOUTHERN HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

It is with both pleasure and pride that I announce the Bureau Chairmen who have so far accepted their assignments for the session in Baltimore next fall.

At the head of the list, where he belongs, stands that stalwart of Similia, Dr. J. B. Gregg Custis, of Washington, D. C., who will head the Bureau of Homœopathy and Propagandism. This assures us something interesting in that ever important subject. Following comes an array of good men that are peer of any set who have ever attempted to provide a program for any society:—Materia Medica, Dr. Wm. A. Boies, Knoxville, Tenn.; Pedology, Dr. A. L. Smethers, Anderson, S. C.; Obstetrics, Dr. Spencer R. Stone, Atlanta, Ga.; Ophthalmology and Otology, Dr. M. B. Coffman, Richmond, Va.; Clinical Medicine, Dr. Wm. R. McCreary, Knoxville, Tenn.; Sanitary Science and Public Health, Dr. F. A. Reed, Eustis, Fla. The Bureau of Surgery has not yet been filled, but I hope will soon be.

If this set of men fail to provide a program that will eclipse anything ever heard in our society, then I will be dreadfully disappointed. Besides the brethren in Baltimore have rallied to our support and appointed a committee of twenty-five to look after our creature comforts and the community will furnish nice audience for our men to address. The colleges are expected to have representative displays there and good men from their faculties will address the meeting.

It is with regret that I am compelled to announce the resignation of our genial secretary, Dr. J. Burnie Griffin, of St. Augustine, Fla., who, owing to the demands of a large and lucrative practice, found himself unable to give to the society the time its work required. Our regret at losing his valuable services is tempered by our pleasure at his splendid success. Dr. J. L. Jennings, of Danville, Va., has been appointed secretary and will give prompt attention to any work in that line.

The Local Committee of Arrangements is headed by that hustler, Dr. H. M. Stevenson, of Baltimore, and that is sufficient assurance that we will be well looked after at that end. Altogether we feel sure that we are going to have the best meeting we have ever had.

Fraternally,

H. E. Koons,
*President.*

J. Leonard Jennings,
*Secretary.*

### A SURVEY OF THE MEDICAL SERVICE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN, PREPARED FOR THE MICHIGAN STATE HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL SOCIETY.

**By W. B. Hinsdale, M. D., Special Committee, May 1st, 1914.**

EXPLANATORY.

At the last meeting of this society I was designated a special committee to prepare a statistical report upon the status, strength and public influence of that part of the medical profession of our State who practice homœopathically, or who are graduates of colleges teaching homœopathic therapeutics. We would not in the least imply that such physicians are at variance or out of harmony with what should be the intent and purpose of the medical profession as a whole; if the public is to be served to the most efficient degree by the doctors there can be but one purpose. Because we, as homœopathic physicians, are somewhat distinctive in our medical measures and probably employ many more medicines than others and quite different ones from those dispensed over the drug store counter or "put up" at the prescription stand, we segregate ourselves occasionally in societies because we can confer and consult to better purposes upon such occasions by ourselves than in a mixed assembly of physicians coming together miscellaneously.

This report is merely a kind of inventory or "taking stock" so that we ourselves may know and permit the public to know how much of a factor we are in the social order of the State of Michigan, working for the same ends as hundreds of others, only trying to accomplish them by what appear to us to be the most rational means.

In collecting the data from which this report is made, six hundred eighty-two letters, containing fourteen questions each, were sent to as many different physicians. If any one failed to receive a letter the fault must be laid to a defective mailing list. To the six hundred eighty-two letters mailed, two hundred forty-nine replies were received. Of course, each one who responded did not answer all the questions, but there is no cause for complaint as to the degree of care manifested by those who rendered this assistance. To all such, thanks is hereby heartily returned. It may be pertinent to add that the actual expense of printing, postage and addressing the letters,

amounting to over fifty dollars in money, has been contributed by the *Homœopathic Observer.*

NUMERICAL STRENGTH.

To question: "If you can do so, estimate conservatively the percentage of population within the range of your practice who employ homœopathic physicians," one hundred and fifty-one reported from one hundred and one towns, including all the large cities. The estimates varied from five to eighty per cent., with an average of thirty-five and one-half percent., which may stand for the entire State. To the inquiry as to "The percentage of population kindly disposed towards homœopathic practice," one hundred fifty-three reported. Adding together the percentage given by each and dividing, as in other instances, by the total number reporting, the average is forty-eight and six-tenths per cent. This may be expressed as follows: among a population of 1,155,199, as covered in the reports received, 410,095 people employ homœopathic physicians and 554,495 persons would have no prejudice against doing so.

Allowing the same rates throughout the territory and covered by the emaining 63.7 per cent. of physicians who did not report, the number of people employing homœopathic physicians in the State of Michigan would be 997,611, and those having no prejudice against employing Homœopathy is 1,365,743.

An item of unique and particular interest is here presented from the University Health Service. It is certainly deserving attention. At the opening of the university year by adding two dollars to the fee of each student, a free health service was established. This service renders to all students, totaling 5,500, free medical treatment. The service has in attendance physicians from both schools of medicine. The consulting room of the homœopathic attendant, Dr. C. B. Stouffer, is labeled "Homœopathic," so that there may be no mistakes in the voluntary choice of students. The total number of office visits made by students from October 1, 1913, the day of university opening to April 2d, following a period of six months, is 9,245; of these Dr. Stouffer treated 3,698 or forty per cent. A considerable part of the time two physicians have been working from the old school department, whereas all the assistance Dr. Stouffer has had has been by senior students from the college. The above statements do not include women. There is a woman physician assigned separately to all the women students of the university.

If forty per cent. out of nearly six thousand young people who represent the selected families of the country at large voluntarily go to a university office labeled homœopathic, it goes to indicate that the percentages given elsewhere in this resumé are more than confirmed by a test case in which careful statistical and scientific methods are applied.

CHARITY.

The professional services rendered the public without hope of fee or reward is an interesting item. To the question: "How much are you doing annually in public charity work without compensation estimated in dollars," one hundred and fifty-three replied. The statements varied from thirty-five uundred dollars to nothing. The total amount was $122,105 with an average of $798. Estimating at the same rate the entire number of physicians in the State, the total is $544,236. Adding to this $98,975 for the charity bestowed upon 3,959 patients by the university clinics by the homœopathic faculty, the amount is $643,211.

No class of business men do so much for the public welfare as the physicians. It is a part of the life that a doctor lives to render gratuitous medicines, services and comfort to those of his fellows who are suffering from bodily ailment. He who does not show forth this Christian principle by his works is indeed a rare one and also a person himself in need of sympathy.

GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICE.

In municipal, local and government health service there is a better showing than in the service under State control. From two hundred forty-nine reports the following tables are derived:

| | *Number actually reported.* | *Total number estimated.* |
|---|---|---|
| City and town health officer | 64 | 173 |
| Township health officer | 38 | 100 |
| Country physician | 12 | 35 |
| Coronor | 4 | 10 |
| U. S. pension examiner | 18 | 48 |

Besides this there are a few milk inspectors, jail surgeons, school inspectors; one lady physician is examiner for juvenile court. There are others in the U. S. Marine Service, Civil Service examiners, half a dozen mayors, twenty or thirty members of boards of education, bank directors, justices of the peace and one member of Y. M. C. A. board.

PUBLIC UTILITIES.

The question referring to public utilities service such as railroads, street car lines, factories, shops, mines, etc., brought data indicating that the most of the railroad lines and manufacturing industries, not under the contract system, manifest reasonable liberality towards the surgeons of our school, although occasionally the evidence is conclusive that certain ones discriminate to our disadvantage. Of railroads the Pere Marquette has the largest number of homœopathic surgeons.

One serious fact works decidedly to our disadvantage in this regard. The hospitals in which cases of accident are usually cared for are controlled by men of one school and those who naturally will favor surgeons of their own staff.

Sixty-one hospitals were reported as not barring the privileges of their accommodations to homœopaths, but a very few reported that they have any governing voice in hospital administration.

The prejudice that old line life insurance companies manifested against appointing homœopaths as examiners seems to have been very much modified as at least eighty-three different companies doing business in this State, according to the reports, have made such appointments. One or two reports stated that objections had been made on account of the applicants being homœopaths, but the names of the companies were not given. The New York Life has the greatest number of homœopathic examiners. The reason for the more favorable attitude of insurance companies towards us as medical men is probably due to the fact that they want our business and direct influence, although it would be more pleasant to attribute it to recognized efficiency in the methods of physical diagnosis.

STATE INSTITUTIONS.

Of the State institutions such as asylums, reformatories, schools, prisons, etc., outside the university, there are according to the Michigan annual for 1913 forty-five physicians employed. Of these eight are homœopathic physicians. The directorates of a large number of State institutions are positions that may well be filled by physicians; especially is this true of such ones as asylum boards, trustees for schools for the blind, deaf, epileptics, etc. We have two members upon the State Sanitarium Board, one upon the Board of Pardons, none upon that most important board from the medical standpoint, the State Board of Health. Of course, we have such representation upon the Board of Medical Examiners as the law requires, but relatively we do not receive as many appointments upon the various permanent State service boards as our numbers and much less than our clientele would demand.

Were we any other body of citizens with equal influence, every newspaper in the State would contain both free and paid reading matter protesting for an equality in distribution. It gives an individual, it gives an organization of individuals spirit and enthusiasm to be conscious that he and they are of enough consequence to be called to some form of public activity, particularly when their training makes them just as competent as the majority of those who are preferred before them.

The reason why the minority does not receive, in this class of cases, a proportionate distribution is largely the fault of themselves. While we are organized, while we enjoy the quiet of a meeting like this, while we are edified and strengthened for our personal tasks, as an organization we do not persist and insist, as a group of self-respecting gentlemen should, upon wider recognition. Of course, the matter of "getting places" is largely a political affair. Some people rather shrink from the political methods usually necessary to selection for a position. As a class we are poor politicians and indifferent agitators.

Among the fourteen questions there were some that do not especially pertain to the particular information sought with reference to an approximate estimate towards maintaining and bettering the social order. However, the replies are valuable for reference and afford information very useful for the Council of Medical Education of the American Institute of Homœopathy.

The following are the questions submitted in the survey:

1. Name ..... Address .....
2. What specialty, if any, are you pursuing?
3. Are you a member or officer of any board, commission or society that has to do with public service and welfare such as, board of health, board of education, pension or other examining board, city or town council or other similar office?

Town, township, county, district, city, State, National.

4. For what life insurance companies do you examine?
5. Are you surgeon or physician for any railroads, street car lines, factories, shops, mines, military organization, county house, etc.?
6. Give names of hospitals and other institutions in your locality in which homœopathic physicians have an active medical part.
7. Are you individually associated with any hospital, sanatarium or similar institutions?
8. If you can do so, please estimate conservatively the percentage of the population within the range of your practice who employ homœopathic physicians .....The same of those kindly disposed toward homœopathic practice.
9. How much are you doing in public charity work without compensation estimated in dollars?
10. Will you give names and addresses of editors or other newspaper men who employ or might employ a homœopathic physician?
11. Do you know of any ladies' societies that are working particularly to give relief to the needy in homœopathic instittuions?
12. Are you connected with any public dispensary, training school or benevolent institution?
13. Please give other information pertaining to yourself and others that you consider will be of interest in a statistical report.
14. Are there any public institutions, meaning those supported by public money, in your neighborhood from which homœopathic physicians are excluded form practice?

NOTE.—The object of this survey is to prepare an approximate estimate as to how much ho-

mœopathic physicians, outside private practice, contribute towards maintaining and bettering the social order by medical, social, charitable and official service.

## BOOK REVIEWS.

The Call of the Stars. By John R. Kippax, M. D., LL. B. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York and London, Knickerbocker Press, 1914.

This work by our well known confrere is one of the interesting and readable scientific works that have from time to time emanated from members of the homœopathic profession. Dr. Kippax is an expert astronomer, and this is not his first attempt to present in a popular way the elements of astronomy. His former work was entitled "Comets and Meteors." "The Call of the Stars" is a very chaming presentation of the topic, and we trust that our readers will procure the work and enjoy it as we have done.

Transactions of the Homœopathic Medical Society of the State of New York for the Year 1913, Volume LVII.

The annual proceedings of the New York Society have reached our table, and are replete as usual with good things in homœopathic medicine. The papers are excellent ones throughout. The volumes of the transactions of this society are a decided addition to the library of any progressive homœopathic physician.

The Junior Nurse. By Charlotte A. Brown, R. N., Instructor in the Boston City Hospital; Graduate of the Boston City Hospital and Boston Lying-in Hospital Training Schools for Nurses; late Superintendent of the Hartford Hospital Training School, Hartford, Conn. 12mo, 208 pages, illustrated. Cloth, $1.50, net. Lea & Febiger, Publishers, Philadelphia and New York, 1914.

Brown's Junior Nurse is a volume which should be read and kept for reference by every one who enters upon the course of training for the nursing profession. It is full of valuable information which is particularly useful to the beginner, and which is sure to be of service not only throughout the entire course in the training school, but afterwards in actual nursing of any kind. The book is characterized by clearness and simplicity. In the presentation of each topic the clinical features are emphasized throughout. The volume opens with chapters on the Qualifications of the Nurse, and her Personal Hygiene, on Bed Making and the Admission of Patients. Then follow discussions of all of those subjects, a knowledge of which is necessary for the discharge of the nurse's everyday duties. The sections on Bandaging, on Emergencies and on Infectious and Contagious Diseases are worthy of special attention. A convenient glossary is placed at the end of the volume. The illustrations are extremely helpful, especially those in the section on bandaging.

A Manual of Clinical Diagnosis by Means of Laboratory Methods. For Students, Hospital Physicians, and Practitioners. By Charles E. Simon, M. D., Professor of Clinical Pathology and Experimental Medicine in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore. Eighth edition, enlarged and thoroughly revised. Octavo, 809 pages, with 185 engravings and 25 plates. Cloth, $5.00, net. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia and New York, 1914.

That this is generally recognized as the leading work on Clinical Diagnosis is shown by the demand which has carried it to its eighth edition. Such success indicates that it has won the hearty approbation of the profession; and this can result only from intrinsic merit of a high order. In this new edition will be found the advances which the last two years have brought forth. They are of great interest and importance. The account of the diagnostic methods based upon the appearance of the protective ferments of Abderhalden in the blood will be found up to date and, it is believed, a trustworthy guide for those who would venture into the attractive field of "organ diagnosis." Much of the technique in connection with the Wassermann reaction has been rewritten. The applicability of the complement fixation test to latent gonococcus infections having been satisfactorily established, the corresponding technique has been embodied in the present edition and should prove useful in many cases. The more modern methods of investigating the existence and extent of renal disease have been carefully considered, and should receive the attention of both the general practitioner and the laboratory worker. They are thoroughly practical, and should be employed as a matter of routine in the study of the corresponding diseases.

A very excellent and practical feature will be found in the second part of the volume, entitled "The Essential Factors in the Laboratory Diagnosis of Various Diseases." This section of 250 pages is devoted to the application of laboratory findings to diagnosis; and under the various diseases, which are alphabetically arranged, are given the essential points of diagnostic significance. This feature is unique in books on the subject.

In the new edition the text has been increased by about thirty pages, and a number of new illustrations have been added. The colored plates are exceptionally fine.

# MEDICAL CENTURY

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## TWO NOTABLE SURVEYS.

THERE have been recently made two surveys of the homœopathic field which show in one instance a high grade of loyalty, and in the other an extensive growth of Homœopathy.

The first of these is *The Questionaire of the Chicago Homœopathic Medical Society.*

Pursuant to the resolutions passed by the Chicago Homœopathic Medical Society at its October meeting, the special committee appointed by President Costain met at the Hotel Sherman Thursday evening, December 4th, and voted to send out the following statement explanatory of the purpose of the questionaire which it accompanies:

We believe that the best medical education is not necessarily the most elaborate or the most expensive, but that which develops a system representing the lowest death rate at the least cost to the sick.

We believe also that the system which can lay just claim to these results is destined to become the dominant school of medicine and to protect the people best from the quacks and the cults.

We claim that Homœopathy accomplishes these results.

Our claim must be proved to the satisfaction of the public by scientific measures given wide publicity. The burden of this proof rests, practically, upon those colleges which are now endowed as homœopathic medical institutions and which represent, practically, the only moneyed support of Homœopathy.

Such colleges, therefore, should employ men as all-time instructors who shall scientifically prove our claim and widely disseminate its merits.

In order to do these things we must necessarily deviate somewhat from the old school curriculum; and for the full accomplishment of our purpose, we need the moral support of the homœopathic profession. We, therefore, respectfully request attention to the following resolutions passed by the Englewood Homœopathic Medical Society at its August meeting:

WHEREAS, Our attention has been directed to the alarming growth in the number and vigor of the quacks and the cults; and

WHEREAS, Homœopathy can become, if properly managed, the bulwark of the public against quacks, cults, and all commercialized medicine of whatever nature; and

WHEREAS, Directly or indirectly as a consequence of the activities of the American Medical Association the full development of Homœopathy in our institutions is being inhibited;

*Resolved,* That we, the Englewood Homœopathic Medical Society hereby request the Chicago Homœopathic Medical Society, through its committees, to send out a questionaire to all the graduates of homœopathic medical colleges in the State of Illinois, with view to ascertaining what the opinion of such graduates is with reference to the following questions, which, as finally amended by the special committee of the Chicago Homœopathic Medical Society appointed at the October meeting and given power to act, are

(1) Do you approve of the examination and grading of homœopathic medical colleges by the American Medical Association, its councils or committees?

(2) Are you in favor of a separate homœopathic board of examiners in Illinois (as in various other States) for the license to practice medicine?

A copy of the statement as above, together with a special card for reply to the questionaire, will be sent out early in 1914 to the graduates of homœopathic medical colleges practicing medicine in the State of Illinois.

Any one wishing further information regarding the questionaire should address the chairman, Dr. Clifford Mitchell, 140 N. State St., Chicago, who will be pleased to furnish it.

DRS. T. BACMEISTER,
J. P. COBB,
J. W. CORNELL,
T. EDWARD COSTAIN,
GILBERT FITZ-PATRICK,
A. H. GORDON,

BELLE GURNEY,
BURTON HASELTINE,
SARAH M. HOBSON,
PAUL HULLHORST
CLIFFORD MITCHELL,
ELMER E. VAUGHN,
*Special Committee.*

The report upon this is as follows:

The special committee appointed by President Costain reported at the meeting held on April 16th as follows:

Eight hundred copies of the questionaire were sent to as many graduates of homœopathic colleges in the State of Illinois.

The two questions asked were: (1) Do you approve of the examination and grading of homœopathic medical colleges by the American Medical Association, its councils, or committees? (2) Are you in favor of a separate homœopathic board of examiners in Illinois (as in various other States)?

About three hundred copies of the questionaire were sent to physicians outside the limits of Chicago and about 500 to those in the city.

The total number of answers received was 486, of which 207 were from out of town and 279 from Chicago.

The per cent, of answers received was 69 from out of town and 55 from Chicago, indicating a greater interest on part of the out of town doctors.

The total number opposed to the American Medical Association and in favor of a separate homœopathic board was 412, or 85 per cent. of the whole number of answers.

The total number opposed to inspection by the American Medical Association was 474, or 91 per cent. of the answers of those answering.

The total number of those in favor of a separate homœopathic board was 429, or 88 per cent. of those answering.

The total number in favor of American Medical Association inspection and also supporting the present state board system was only 19, or but four per cent. of those answering.

The total number of those favoring American Medical Association inspection was 44, or nine per cent. of those answering.

The total number of those unqualifiedly opposed to the separate board was 46, or about nine per cent.

The total number failing to vote on the inspection by American Medical Association was nine, or about two per cent. The total number undecided or evasive or argumentative was seven, or about less than two per cent.

The total number of those undecided, evasive or more or less argumentative regarding the separate board was 12, or between two and three per cent. of those answering.

The total number of those expressing some opinion or inclined to argue the points was 36, or about seven and one-half per cent.

The total number voting yes or no without qualification was 450, or 92 per cent.

The total number who failed to give both questions unqualified homœopathic support was 74, or 15 per cent.

The total number of those who failed to sign their names to the postal card was unexpectedly large, about 90 so doing.

The per cent. of those failing to sign their names was about the same out of town as in Chicago.

Supposing that the 314 not heard from all voted for American Medical Association inspection, this would still leave a majority of 160 against it.

Supposing that the 314 not heard from all voted against a separate homœopathic board this would still leave a majority of 115 in favor of it.

Thus it is seen that the sentiment in Illinois is overwhelmingly in favor of our maintaining a decided independence in all our affairs, when it is considered that Illinois is the State the most beridden of all by the American Medical Association, that it counts among its homœopathic profession or graduates more disloyal members and trimmers than any other State, and by this we mean members of the American Medical Association, the results of this survey are certainly encouraging and prove the contention of the MEDICAL CENTURY that we can well afford to lose the few that would drop from our ranks were the Stout Resolution passed, and we remain infinitely stronger therefrom.

With only 9 per cent. and 12 per cent., respectively, opposed to the two points embodied in the questionaire, the showing is certainly a most excellent one. This work should be done in every State of the Union.

The second survey, that of the Michigan State Homœopathic Society, is published in this issue of the MEDICAL CENTURY, and speaks for itself. It shows the great strength of Homœop-

athy in this State, and it also shows the need of an awakening all along the line. The figures given as to our representation in public matters could be greatly increased. We could get many more representatives in any State were we to work for them and take an interest in public affairs. Michigan is doing well, but she has one blot on her homœopathic escutcheon; there is still a member of the American Medical Association holding his position illegally as a member of the State Board of Medical Examiners and representing the homœopathic school.

There is one point resulting from this survey that seems to us of especial value that was omitted from the report of Dr. Hinsdale, and that is the number of newspaper editors, writers, etc., who were homœopathic patrons. The number was surprisingly large and would be of great value in the propagandistic field.

### SECTARIANISM IN MRDICINE.

WE are reprinting in this issue the great article on "Sectarianism in Medicine" of twenty-five years ago written by Dr. William Tod Helmuth. Nothing has ever been written on this topic before or since that equals this in logic and fact. It is as true to-day as when it was written, and will ever so remain. We believe that the graduates of our colleges since 1889 who really to-day comprise the majority of our physicians will be glad to read this address. Many have doubtless never seen it, and those who have will be glad to reread it.

### DEATHS FROM SALVARSAN.

EIGHT consecutive deaths from the administration of Neo-Salvarsan have occurred in the Los Angeles County Hospital. Seven of these died within twenty-four hours after the injections and the other one lived but a few days. It is said that the administration was faultless. The good homœopathic physician has been wise to let the "other fellow" do the experimenting.

## NEWS ITEMS.

### CALIFORNIA.

*For Sale.*—Well established, prosperous family practice in a large and growing California city. Delightful climate. Will give thorough personal introduction. Going into a specialty elsewhere, and will sell at a bargain. (Reciprocity.)

### ILLINOIS.

Dr. C. St. Clair Drake, of Chicago, has been elected secretary of the State Board of Health, vice Dr. James A. Egan, deceased. Dr. Egan, although an allopathic physician, was always fair to the homœopathic school of medicine, a fact that made him much disliked by the American Medical Association Trust officials. Dr. Drake is a graduate from the Chicago Homœopathic Medical College. He is a member of the Chicago Medical Society (allopathic), and not a member of the Chicago Homœopathic Medical Society. He is doubtless in the same class with Simmons, the editor of the *American Medical Association Journal*, else he would not be elected secretary of the State Board of Health. There is trouble ahead for our Chicago college graduates.

Dr. C. Gurnee Fellows, of Chicago, will move his office on May 1st from the present location in the Marshall Field Building to the Michigan Boulevard Building, 30 N. Michigan Boulevard, at the corner of Washington Street.

### MICHIGAN.

Professor C. B. Kinyon, of the Homœopathic Department, University of Michigan, read a paper at the monthly meeting of the Detroit Practitioners' Society on "Vaginal Cæsarean Section."

### MINNESOTA.

The Minnesota Woman's Homœopathic League has taken up the work of food reform and is establishing dietetic clubs throughout the State under supervision of physicians' wives in towns where there are no clubs, and through this organization and individuals the study of dietetics will be taken up exclusively and scientifically.

### MISSOURI.

General Secretary H. E. Young is busy with the arrangements for the annual meeting of the Missouri Institute of Homœopathy to be held at the Baltimore Hotel, Kansas City, May 14, 15, 16. Dr. Chas. E. Allen is chairman of the committee on entertainment, and this alone is a drawing card. Dr. Scott Parsons is president of the Institute, and he has promised to bring along with him a goodly number of the St. Louis brethren.

Dr. W. A. Forster, of Kansas City, who has been seriously ill the past year, is recuperating in California, and reports improvement.

Dr. Amos Baldwin, of Pleasant Hill, Mo., was a visitor in Kansas City recently and attended a noonday luncheon of the Homœos.

Dr. A. C. Leonard will leave Kansas City soon for a six months' trip abroad, where he will study. He will return home a full fledged eye, ear, nose, throat specialist.

Dr. K. R. Barnum, of Sedalia, brought three operative cases to Hahnemann Hospital several days ago. The doctor does not believe in doing things by halves.

Dr. Maclay Lyon, of Kansas City, has recently prepared himself for diagnostic consultation in kidney dis-

eases, and will pursue this line in connection with that of stomach diseases, in which he has specialized for the past ten years.

Looks like Kansas City was going to become one of the medical centers in the Middle West. K. C. Hahnemann has started an endowment fund proposition of $250,000. A new college building and hospital will be built and the standard raised.

Dr. Lynne B. Greene gave a stereopticon lecture on "Skin Lesions" at the April meeting of the Kansas City Homœopathic Medical Society.

Dr. W. J. Gates, who has practiced for a number of years in Kansas, has established himself in Kansas City, Mo., and is at present located at 301 Bryant Bldg.

The Hahnemann College Club, composed of homœopathic physicians of Kansas City, meets once a week at the Y. M. C. A., where a dinner is served.

Dr. Wm. Karbach, of Kansas City, died March 12. He was professor of pathology in Hahnemann.

Dr. W. E. Cramer, of Kansas City, spent several months last year in England. He plans to go to Switzerland this summer, and Mrs. Cramer, who is spending a year abroad, will accompany him home.

Kansas City recently secured one of the national reserve banks, and the new 40 million dollar station will soon be completed. There is also a boom in the homœopathic situation in Kansas City.

Some of the brethren will attend the state meetings at Lincoln, Neb., and Topeka, Kansas, early in May.

Dr. Maclay Lyon, of Kansas City, made consultation trips to Falls City, Neb., and Sedalia, Mo., in March.

Kansas City Hahnemann's senior class numbers thirteen. However, the jinx is modified by the fact that one of them is a very nice young lady.

Dr. Frank Dunlap, of Horton, Kans., was a visitor to Kansas City recently, and attended one of the weekly luncheons.

Dr. Carl A. Feige, one of Kansas City's representative young surgeons, parted with his appendix recently, and has made a fine recovery Dr. Wm. Davis Foster was the artist.

Dr. Geo. Wildman Smith, who has an interest in Hahnemann Hospital at Kansas City, contemplates taking a course in eye, ear, nose, throat soon, and becoming a real sure enough specialist.

Dr. A. H. Starcke, who has resided in Kansas City many years, and is a Hahnemannian prescriber, is specializing in anæsthesia.

The Missouri Institute of Homœopathy meets in Kansas City on May 14th to 16th. This meeting is expected to be one of the most successful of this association. President Wilcox and a number of other members of the American Institute of Homœopathy from afar will be guests of the society. It is expected that there will be something definite reported as to the Kansas City College.

## NEW YORK.

Dr. Wm. H. Dieffenbach has removed to more commodious quarters in the Rutland, at 256 West 57th Street, New York City.

Dr. Homer I. Ostrom, having retired from active practice, may be addressed for consultations at his country place, "Wonder Strand," Wagnoit, Mass. Telephone, 1357 Falmouth, Mass.

## PENNSYLVANIA.

The Homœopathic Medical Society of the County of Philadelphia held its regular monthly meeting at Hahnemann College, Thursday evening, November 13, 1913, at 8:30 P. M. A paper, entitled "The Diagnosis of Empyemia," was read by Doctor C. Sigmund Raue, the discussion of which was opened by Doctor William Steele. The report of the Committee on "The Medical Siftings" was read by Doctor John G. Wurtz, and proved to be of great interest. The scientific session was followed by a social hour, at which time refreshments were served. Keen interest was shown at this meeting by a large number of members present.

WM. M. SYLVIS, M. D., *Secretary.*

The Joint Committee on Hospital and Dispensary abuse of the County Medical Society and the Homœopathic County Medical Society held a meeting at Hahnemann College, Tuesday evening, December 16, 1913, at 8:30 o'clock. Following are the speakers who took part in a symposium on the subject of "Hospital and Dispensary Abuse:"

"The Scope of This Discussion and the Result Sought," Gordon M. Christine, M. D., Chairman Committee Homœopathic Med. Society.

"Curing Hospital and Dispensary Abuse," R. M. Little, D. D., Secretary of Society for Organizing Charity.

"Need of Definite Information in Checking Hospital and Dispensary Abuse," Mr. Alexander Fleisher, Secretary Public Charities Association.

"Methods of Controlling Hospital and Dispensary Abuse," Joseph B. Farrar, M. D., Chairman Committee County Medical Society.

"Hospital Efficiency," Joseph F. Neff, M. D., Director Public Health, Philadelphia.

"Hospital Management," Mr. Richard Waterman, Financial Secretary Children's Hospital, Philadelphia.

"Social Worker's Point of View," Miss Helen Glenn, Social Service Worker, University of Pennsylvania.

A general discussion, limited to five minutes for each speaker, then took place and proved to be of great interest. The members of the County Medical Society, who were the guests of the Homœopathic Medical Society, where given a hearty welcome and the meeting was attended by a large number of members.

The Clinico-Pathologic Society of Philadelphia held its regular monthly meeting at Hahnemann College, Saturday evening, November 15, 1913, at 8:30 o'clock. The scientific program consisted of the following:

"Stone in Bladder." Presentation of an Unusual Case. W. C. Hunsicker, M. D.

"Aortic Aneurism." Presentation of a case, C. D. Saul, M. D.

"The Theory or the Aberhalden Test for Pregnancy," N. S. Betts, M. D.

The Censors reported favorably the names of Dr. Geo. J. Alexander, 1831 Chestnut street, Philadelphia,

and Dr. Howard Terry, Jr., Phoenixville, Pa.

The meeting was largely attended and great interest was shown by those present.

BENJ. K. FLETCHER, M. D., *Secretary.*

The Germantown Homœopathic Medical Society held its regular monthly meeting at the "Majestic," Broad and Girard Avenue, on Monday, November 17, 1913, at 9 P. M. A paper on "The Treatment of Diabetes" was read by Dr. Clarence Bartlett and was well presented. The Censors reported favorably the name of Dr. Chauncy V. B. Vedder. The meeting was well attended, and a very enjoyable time was had by those present.

LANDRETH W. THOMPSON, M. D., *Secretary.*

The Philadelphia Society for Clinical Research held its regular monthly meeting on Monday evening, November 24, 1913, at 9 P. M., at the office of Dr. J. F. Rowland, 729 S. 60th street. A paper on "Tuberculosis of the Eye" was very ably presented. The meeting was largely attended, and a very enjoyable time was had by those present.

WARREN C. MERCER, M. D., *Secretary.*

The Homœopathic Medical Society of the 23d Ward of Philadelphia held its regular monthly meeting at the office of Dr. J. V. Allen, Frankford, Pa. A paper on "Sulphur" was read, after which a hearty discussion took place. The framing of new By-Laws was a very important feature of the meeting, and a large number of members were present.

JOHN D. BOILEAU, M. D., *Secretary.*

The Homœopathic Medical Society of Delaware County held its regular monthly meeting at the J. Lewis Crozer Homœopathic Hospital, in the staff-room on Thursday, November 13, at 3:30 P. M. Dr. J. R. T. Gray, Jr., gave a very interesting talk and proved to be of great benefit. Keen interest was shown at this meeting by a large number of members present.

G. C. WEBSTER, M. D., *Secretary.*

The Women's Homœopathic Medical Association of Pittsburgh, Pa., held its regular monthly meeting at the office of Dr. Ella D. Goff, 10 W. Moody St., Pittsburgh, Pa., N. S., on Thursday, December 4, 1913, at 8 P. M. A paper on "Pediatrics," diseases of the eyes, ears and nose, was read by Dr. Lydia B. Pierce, and very ably presented. The meeting was a very interesting one and was well attended.

LYDIA B. PIERCE, M. D., *Secretary.*

The managers of the Hahnemann Association held a meeting in the Chapel of the Hospital, on Tuesday, December 9, 1913, at 11:30 A. M. Miss Glenn, head worker in the Social Service Department of the University Hospital, gave a very interesting talk, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

The Board of Managers of the Women's Southern Homœopathic Hospital held its annual meeting on Thursday, November 13, 1913. At 3 P. M., I. M. Wilbur, D. D., gave a very pleasing address. This being Donation Day the hospital was well remembered by many friends of the institution.

ANNA M. MILLER, *Secretary.*

PERSONALS.

Dr. Charles H. Tait announces the removal of his office to 5302 Lancaster avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.

OBITUARY.

Dr. Zachariah Taylor Miller, who for many years was associated with Dr. James H. McClelland on the staff of the Homœopathic Hospital, died at his home, 2015 Carson street, Pittsburgh, Pa., on Friday morning, November 14, at 3 A. M., and less than an hour later Dr. McClelland passed away, at his home at Fifth and Wilkins avenues. Dr. Miller's death was due to rheumatism of the heart. Dr. McClelland's death was the result of overwork and heart trouble. Both were close friends and companions in their social and professional lives. Dr. Miller, like Dr. McClelland, was a distinguished practitioner of Homœopathy in Pennsylvania. He studied medicine in the New York Medical College and the Philadelphia Medical College. He held the highest offices in the County Society of Homœopathy, the State Society of Homœopathy and the American Institute of Homœopathy, of which he was past president and an honored senior.

Dr McClelland, since the age of seventeen, had devoted his life to his chosen profession. Throughout the State and in Europe his ability and attainments have been recognized, and in European capitals he had been honored at councils in the medical profession. He was known to the school of Homœopathy as one of its foremost surgeons. He was graduated from Hahnemann College, Philadelphia, in 1867.

The Homœopathic Medical Society of the 23d Ward of Philadelphia held its regular monthly meeting at the Pen and Pencil Club, 1026 Walnut street, with President F. Emery, M. D., in the chair, the members being the guest of Doctor Ralph Bernstein. Doctor Bernstein gave a Clinical Lecture on "Skin Diseases, Their Recognition and Treatment," and which proved to be a very interesting feature of the occasion. The members and guests, which numbered about twenty-five, were royally entertained and the affair was a delightful one.

J. D. BOILEAU, M. D., *Secretary.*

The Clinico-Pathologic Society of Philadelphia held its regular monthly meeting at Hahnemann College, Saturday evening, January 17, 1914, at 9 P. M. The following interesting cases were presented:

"Eye Cases," Dr. Nagle.

"Primary Spleno-Megaly of the Gaucher Type," Dr. Sappington.

"Laryngeal Cases," Dr. F. W. Smith.

Doctor W. R. Williams gave a very eloquent talk on "The Significance of Cardiac Irregularity," after which the election of officers took place. There was a full attendance of members and keen interest was shown at this meeting.

B. K. FLETCHER, M. D., *Secretary.*

The Society of Surgery, Gynecology and Obstetrics held its regular meeting at Hahnemann College, Wednesday evening, January 28, 1914. The scientific program was as follows:

"Technical Factors in the Surgery of Goitre," Desiderio Roman, M. D.

"The Importance of the Maternity Patient Engaging Her Medical Attendant Early," Warren C. Mercer, M. D.

"The Importance of Gonorrhœa in the Glands of Skeen," Augustus Korndœrfer, M. D.

The meeting was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by a large number of members present.

J. M. KENWORTHY, M. D., *Secretary.*

The Germantown Homœopathic Medical Society held its regular monthly meeting at the "Majestic," Broad and Girard avenue, on Monday, the nineteenth of January, 1914, at nine o'clock in the evening. Many important topics were discussed at this meeting, after which the election of officers took place, which was as follows: President, Dr. E. M. Howard; Vice-President, Dr. L. T. Ashcraft; Recording Secretary, Dr. W. C. Baker; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. L. W. Thompson; Treasurer, Dr. I. B. Gilbert; Judiciary Committee, Drs. W. H. Keim, W. Speakman, T. J. Gramm, J. A. Fisher and C. M. Brooks; Censors, Drs. N. F. Lane, E. F. Humphreys and W. C. Powell.

LANDRETH W. THOMPSON, M. D., *Secretary.*

The Homœopathic Medical Society of Chester, Delaware and Montgomery Counties held their mid-winter meeting at the Windsor Hotel, Philadelphia, on Tuesday, February 10th, 1914, at one o'clock. "Appendicitis in Children" was the title of a paper read by Doctor T. L. Chase and which proved to be an interesting feature of the meeting, after which a lively discussion on "The Income Tax" took place, which was entered into by a large number of members present. All members then partook of an elaborate luncheon, which was thoroughly enjoyed by a large number of members.

ISAAC CROWTHER, M. D., *Secretary.*

The Physicians' Motor Club of Philadelphia held its annual meeting at the Hotel Walton, Broad and Locust streets, on Tuesday evening, January 20th, 1914, at 9 P. M. The nomination and election of officers took place at this meeting, after which the annual reports were read. This was followed by a general discussion on many important topics into which a large number of members entered. The usual collation was served and all present expressed themselves as having had a very delightful time.

HOWARD A. SUTTON, *Secretary.*

The Homœopathic Medical Society of Delaware County held its regular monthly meeting in the staff-room of the J. Lewis Crozer Homœopathic Hospital, Chester, Pa., on Thursday, January 15, 1914, at 3:30 P. M. Dr. J. P. Van Keuren gave a very interesting report of a case of "Pellagra." Many members were present, and an enjoyable time was had by those present.

G. C. WEBSTER, M. D., *Secretary.*

The Women's Homœopathic Medical Association of Pittsburgh, Pa., held its regular monthly meeting at the office of Dr. Clara Williams, 822 Wood street, Wilkinsburg, Pa., on Thursday, February 5, 1914, at 8 P. M. Dr. Ella D. Goff read a paper, entitled "Diseases of the Lungs, Which Occur During Childhood." The meeting, which was an interesting one, was thoroughly enjoyed by a large number of members present.

LYDIA B. PIERCE, M. D., *Secretary.*

## OBITUARY.

**Dr. Daniel Simmons.**

Brooklyn, N. Y., March 18, aged 71. New York Homœopathic College, 1875.

**Dr. H. L. Towner.**

New York City, late of Sayre, Pa. Chicago Homœopathic College, 1879.

**Dr. Woodward D. Carter.**

Philadelphia, March 18, aged 47 years. Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital of Philadelphia, in 1894.

**Dr. Wm. Dehaven Eaches.**

Phœnixville, Pa., March 11th, aged 41 years. Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital, Philadelphia, 1894.

**Dr. Eugene G. West.**

Orange, N. J., March 28, aged 49 years. Hahnemann University of Illinois.

**Dr. C. E. Rowell.**

Stamford, Conn., March 28, aged 65 years. New York Homœopathic College, 1873.

**Dr. Charles F. Laurer.**

Brooklyn, N. Y., April 9th, aged 74 years. New York Homœopathic Medical College and Hospital, 1863.

**Dr. Levi Hall.**

Minneapolis, Minn., March 22d, aged 81 years. Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital, Chicago, 1882.

**Dr. A. O. Hardenstein.**

Vicksburg, Miss., March21. Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital, Philadelphia, 1889.

**Dr. Cyrus G. Fletcher.**

Erie, Kans., March 5th, aged 63. Pulte Medical College, 1881.

**Dr. F. A. Whitfield.**

New Providence, Tenn., Feb. 28th. Pulte Medical College, 1890.

**Dr. John B. Wurtz.**

Germantown, Pa., April 3d, æt. 60. Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia, 1876.

**Dr. Leila G. Bedell.**

Tryon, N. C., March 28th, æt. 76. Boston University School of Medicine, 1878.

**Dr. W. H. Horton.**

Florence, Neb., April 4th, æt. 70. Homœopathic Medical College, Kansas City, 1891.

**Dr. A. I. Miller.**

Harrisburg, Pa., March 26th, æt. 74. Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia, 1872.

**Dr. F. D. Stotzenbach.**

Pittsburgh, Pa., March 13th, æt. 35. Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia, 1904.

**Dr. Theodore R. Waugh.**

St. Albans, Vt. Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital, Philadelphia, 1872.

**Dr. Miles W. Palmer.**

New York City, aged 92 years. College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York University, 1847, later becoming a Homœopath.

## PHARMACODYNAMICS AND THERAPEUTICS.

BY ALBERT EUCLID HINSDALE, M. D., BAY CITY, MICH.

### Apium Virus.

The stings of bees, hornets, wasps, yellow-jackets and other hymenoptera are of common occurrence. There are frequent cases of poisoning from these animals. While the ordinary bee sting is very painful and accompanied, usually, by local swelling and tumefactions, recovery results spontaneously within a few hours in the majority of cases. There are instances, however, in which stings have been fatal, the fatalities resulting from an unusual susceptibility of the one stung or from a powerful charge of the poison in the offending bees. Multiple stings occur sometimes when a number of bees attack an individual in concert; as for instance, farmers in plowing in midsummer often disturb and tear up the nests of yellow-jackets who, in retaliation, inflict severe punishment upon both plowman and horses. Occasionally a hornets' nest is accidentally disturbed to bring upon the intruder violent hypodermic injections of virus from the hornets who have, justly, the reputation of being more poisonous than common bees. The physician is often called upon to appease the pains and swellings of persons who have been stung.

*Nature of the poison:*. It is generally conceded that the principal toxic element of the venom of bees and their kindred is formic acid. Formic acid is also present in ants and similar insects. In fact, this particular acid is called formic on account of its occurrence in ants, from the Latin word *formica,* an ant. If ants and bees be distilled with water, formic acid may be obtained by making the proper chemical clarification. Formic acid is also the poisonous ingredient in "stinging nettles." Consider in this connection Urtica urens.

It must not be inferred that formic acid is all there is of Apis mellifica or Apium virus, which are compound biological products. The Apium virus is obtained by clipping off the venomous stingers of bees, while Apis mellifica, the original Apis, is obtained by trituration or macerating the whole bee. The common black honey bee is the one that should be used in preparing the homœopathic preparation, as the other breeds or strains of bees, now so common in apiaries, are not the ones that were used in making the provings.

There are cases reported in medical literature presenting very violent results from stings. For instance, one man received about one hundred stings from common hive bees. He experienced tingling sensations, violent cardiac palpitation, everything seemed to get black at once. His lips and finger tips became cyanotic. He was so faint that his friends thought he was dying. Such a case demands antidotal treatment.

*Antidotes:* Of course, local cooling applications will appease the burning and formication as well as the œdema of the affected part. If the patient happens to be stung about the face sometimes the acute cellulitis is so great as to close the eye and contort the face. The local dropsy is pinkish or purplish. Rest in the cool shade with cold moisture applied to the face is indicated. In the centre of the puncture made by the stinger there is often seen a little black spot which is the shaft of the stinger itself. This should be extracted by means of a small forceps. Ammonia moderately diluted applied locally, or an alkaline solution of carbolic acid applied in the same way will take the "fire" out of many insect and nettle stings. Alcohol in dilution may neutralize somewhat the efforts of the poison. The bites of ants, bugs and caterpillars are treated in the same way as bee poisoning.

The constitutional symptoms that are sometimes induced by the virus under consideration would seem to be met by Belladonna.

### Kali Iodatum.

Given empirically in very obstinate cases of asthma will very frequently effect a cure where other means have failed. Dose, 5 drops of the saturated solution gradually increased to 20 drops, in water, after each meal.—*H. W. Paige.*

### Quebracho.

Great dyspnœa with cyanosis, compelling the patient to sit up in bed. Acts remarkably in some cases in controlling the paroxysms of asthma. Thirty drops of the mother tincture in four ounces of water, teaspoonful doses every fifteen minutes.—*H. W. Paige.*

**Sparteine Sulphate.**

The following prescription has, in many instances, proven of great value in the treatment of valvular heart disease associated with a mild degree of failure of compensation:

Caffein citrat., ½ drachm.
Strychninæ sulphat., 1/3 grain.
Sparteine sulphat., 3 grains.
Ft. capsulæ No. xii.
Sig: One capsule every three or four hours.

This formula is taken from Anders, and has proven beneficial in several cases which resisted practically every other prescription. "The above prescription is not only a good heart tonic, but also a good diuretic."

**Cactus.**

Occurrence. Cactus produces severe symptoms of poisoning when taken in large doses, yet cases are rarely met with, and those of a fatal termination are not reported. This is due to the fact that the drug has never been taken or given with suicidal or murderous intent, and is not used except upon advice of a physician. Our knowledge of its poisonous action is derived from homœopathic provings.

Fatal dose. As near as can be determined it would take from ½ to ¾ ounces of the tincture to destroy life.

Local action. No reaction follows its local application.

Symptoms. Congestive conditions of the head are the first symptoms that manifested themselves in the provers who took the drug in material doses. "Such violent pulsations in temples it seems as though skull would burst." Severe rigors next appear followed by copious sweats. Oppression of breathing with weight on the chest are annoying symptoms. Cactus has the power of causing constriction of hollow muscular organs, such as the throat, heart, uterus and intestinal tract. The constrictive sensation around the heart is especially characteristic, and it was described by the provers as though "There was an iron band round the heart preventing its proper movements." Together with this constrictive feeling there is palpitation, and the heart beats become small and irregular. The gastric secretions become acrid in character and produce waterbrash and "heartburn." Severe colicky pains are experienced in the stomach, and much clear, profuse urine is passed.

**Thyroid Gland.**

It is said that the administration of Thyroid gland has, in some instances, changed a simple goitre into one of the exopthalmic variety.

**Nitro-Hydrochloric Acid.**

This agent is almost a specific in the treatment of oxaluria. It always gives good results, but the remedy must be continued for some time in order to obtain the full benefit from its action. The distressing skin symptoms, sometimes resembling psoriasis, which are commonly met with in these cases are quickly dispelled by the drug. The dose is from 3 to 5 drops of the official dilute acid 3 or 4 times a day.

**Olive Oil.**

In the treatment of inveterate constipation injections of olive oil are of the greatest value. The patient is directed to obtain a quart of the oil and sterilize it by immersion for half an hour in boiling water. At night, after the patient has gone to bed, he is directed to inject from 2 to 3 ounces of the oil into the rectum by means of an ear syringe and not to arise, if possible, until morning. The oil, in the course of the night, travels up the large intestine and lubricates the bowel and the hard fecal lumps. The first thing in the morning the patient is directed to go to stool and if the bowels do not move, to start them by an injection of warm water. Patients who are willing to follow out this treatment for, at least, a month, and to follow suitable directions as regards diet, are greatly benefited and eventually cured. In connection with this treatment the indicated remedy is given internally, which, in view of a previous history of being addicted to cathartics, is usually Nux vomica.—A. E. Hinsdale.

**Bismuth.**

The practical conclusions from the study of Bismuth poisoning are clear:

1. Bismuth is readily absorbed from a granulating surface.

2. When absorbed, it may have extremely toxic effects.

3. It should, therefore, never be applied as a dusting powder (dermatol) or salve to extensive granulating areas.

4. Beck's Bismuth paste should be used only with the greatest caution. Although small quantities (5-10 grams) cannot be considered dangerous, the possible toxic effect should be constantly kept in mind even with these small quantities, and, at the slightest evidence of intoxication, the Bismuth should be thoroughly evacuated. In Reich's fatal case, less than 25 grams of paste were injected.

5. When larger quantities of paste are required, some less toxic drug, as magnetic iron oxide, should be used.—*Journal of Surgery, Gynecology and Obstetrics,* Sept., 1912.

**Thiosinamine.**

Two injections of Thiosinamine (fibrolysin) completely cured in one week a patient of an obstinate chronic interstitial pneumonia ("chronishe lungenentzuendung"), according to Brenner, who thus writes in the *Muenchener Medizinische Wochenschrift,* 1913, page 1547.